

CITY OF REDMOND ARTS COMMISSION

MINUTES

June 14, 2007

Redmond City Hall, Council Chambers

"Voice the views of the community to Mayor and City Council in reference to all cultural endeavors"

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chairperson Tom Flynn, Latha Sambamurti, Eva Moon, and Kamal Siegel

ABSENT AND EXCUSED: Vice Chair John Stilin and Jill Krusinski

STAFF PRESENT: Debra Churchill, Recreation Program Manager; Mary Yelanjian, Arts Administrator; Meagan Farrell, Recording Secretary

YOUTH ADVOCATES PRESENT:

GUESTS PRESENT: Donna Porter, Connie Cooper, and Amo Marr

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AGENDA

Note: Bold/italic text denotes Staff and Commissioner follow-up resulting from this meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tom Flynn called to order the regular meeting of the Redmond Arts Commission (RAC) at 7:00 p.m. at Redmond City Hall Council Chambers.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion for approval of the RAC minutes of May 10, 2007 carried without objection.

III. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- Add Arts Jam in July to Programming Committee report.
- Remove grant report for 2nd Story Rep and Youth report.

**Motion for approval of the revised RAC agenda of June 14, 2007
carried without objection.**

IV. CHAIR REPORTS

A. Chair Report – Flynn

The Executive Committee which consists of Commissioners Sambamurti, Flynn, Stilin and Moon, met to discuss the Strategic Plan. The plan should be ready for RAC's approval in July.

B. Vice Chair Report - Stilin

None

V. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Amo Marr from the Nokomis club of Redmond was introduced. She gave a brief background about the club, which was established in 1909. It is a women's volunteer organization. Donna Porter, who is a former RAC member, is also a Nokomis Club member. She spoke about a public art project the club is organizing for 2009. They will be asking RAC for their support, advice and possible collaboration with this event. The group will come speak to RAC again to discuss plans as they form.

VI. GRANT REPORT – Seattle Chamber Music Society

Connie Cooper, the Executive Director of the Seattle Chamber Music Society, thanked RAC for their support. This group is the largest presenter of Chamber music in the state. Last summer's festival lasted two weeks. There were 5 separate main concerts, all featuring a 30 minute pre-concert recital. These took place at Overlake School. 13,500 people attended the events of which 8% were children and 2% were seniors. 30% were brand new attendees this year. These numbers reflect the ticketed audience and do not include those who enjoyed the music outside of the ticketed seating area.

They are working to strengthen their marketing for this year. Their goal is to become as established on the east side as they are in Seattle. This summer is the 3rd event at Overlake and sales are 12% ahead of where they were last year at this time.

RAC thanked the Seattle Chamber Music Society for bringing such a wonderful cultural event to the City of Redmond.

VII. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS –Flynn

Yelanjian formulated a list of all the committee assignments. She asked RAC to review the assignments and make sure that everyone is satisfied with

theirs. RAC agreed to their assignments. Churchill suggested that once the RAC vacancies are filled, Commissioners should be involved with fewer committees so they don't get burned out. Yelanjian thanked the committees for doing a great job with setting agendas and reporting.

Churchill gave an update on the Commissioner recruitment process. The ordinance is being changed to read "up to two members can work at Redmond Businesses or they can be a resident of the greater Redmond zone." This will allow more candidates to apply to be on RAC. If this is passed by the Council at their next meeting (6/19), then a PSA will be done on 6/20. The closing date for application acceptance will be set for three weeks from the 20th. ***Yelanjian suggested that if RAC members know any current applicants, to let them know that the process has been delayed.***

INTERMISSION – Sambamurti painted a Henna design on Yelanjian's hand.

VIII. STAFF REPORTS - Yelanjian

A. Percent for Art

Some pieces are in. Yelanjian is hoping to utilize a conference room in City Hall for art set up. The art will be displayed for public viewing/comment.

B. ROS

First Mutual Bank and Redmond Town Center are sponsoring the program. The Programming Committee will plan the opening.

C. Arts Day

This event is next Tuesday at the City Council Meeting. RAC is encouraged to attend the reception at 6:45. RAC should talk to the Council and audience members about the Arts Council and what they do.

D. Arts in the Park

Yelanjian brought the brochures which are now completed. Commissioner Sambamurti will be distributing these brochures at Derby Days. Commissioner Siegel volunteered to help her. Yelanjian is working on adding henna painters and children's art coordinators to the program.

IX. PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE - Sambamurti

A. 2007 Summer Arts in the Parks Series - Sambamurti

This will take place at the Redmond City Hall campus. Admission is free for all performances. The line up consists of: Radost Folk Ensemble, Geoffrey Castle, Show Brazil!, Green Stage, Wooden O Theatre, Billet-Deux and Correo Aereo.

B. Arts Jam - Moon

This is a new event for Redmond, for people who like to play music. A band will play and audience members can either sing or play along with them. There will also be an open mic for anyone who wants to do solo work. RASP is involved to add a spoken word and poetry component to the event. The MC for the event will be Clint McCune.

C. Digital Arts and Gaming Festival - Siegel

The planning of this event is underway and will take place in September, 2008. The committee has had brainstorming sessions and are in the process of gathering funds. Yelanjian was able to acquire some seed money. The goal is to have all the programming set by February, 2008. This event will be outdoors. Hartman Park and Perrigo Community Park are being considered as possible venues. There is a \$5,000 grant from 4culture. Further funding issues will be discussed in the Programming Committee. There is potential for tourism funding.

D. Thank you to Sponsor - Sambamurti

A thank you card was circulated for Mysore Masala, Indian Cuisine. They generously gave a \$700 sponsorship for the Winter Performance Series.

X. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - Yelanjian

In their committee meeting notes, this committee outlined two new ways of doing things. They outlined a project form which will streamline the process of budgeting. They also looked at the process of reviewing grant requests. They suggested asking grant applicants to submit a letter of intent prior to filling out the grant application. This will allow RAC to have more input as to the contents of the final application. The committee still needs to create the actual applications. It is their hope to have that done by fall. The grant program would have an annual deadline rather than just allowing people to apply at different times throughout the year. RAC would continue to award the grants.

Motion to approve the direction that the committee is going in and that they continue to move forward with it and present RAC with a formal proposal: Commissioner Moon

Second by: Chair Flynn

Motion carried: 4-0 unanimous

XI. INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE – Moon

This committee is going to be in a supporting role for developing the strategic plan by looking at projects that may want to be done in Redmond. They are moving forward with the artist registry which is a list of anyone living or working in Redmond or any business in Redmond who is an artist or is

interested in supporting or volunteering for the arts. There is a form to fill out on the website to get on this registry.

This committee has also talked about holding an art summit that would allow community members to have a voice in what is going forward.

Finally they have discussed fundraising and the possibility of forming an arts foundation. Businesses will be encouraged to get involved.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

Yelanjian sent out an outline for a project called "The Big Read." This project is being promoted by the National Endowment for the Arts. The community would choose a book and then explore the book through discussion groups, movies, theatrics, etc. This would promote community partnerships as well as a love of literacy. The Friends of the Library will be asked to be involved as well. A letter of intent is required before the next RAC meeting. The programming committee will review this program and decide if they want to move forward with it.

Motion to support effort to send letter of intent to participate in The Big Read program: Commissioner Siegel

Second by: Commissioner Sambamurti

Motion carried: 4-0 unanimous

Commissioner Moon raised the issue of recruiting community members to sit on committees. Churchill stated that once all the RAC positions are full and the strategic plan is adopted, this can be pursued. The Administration Committee can discuss how to engage the public. The goal is to have the role of volunteers outlined by the next meeting.

XIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn the meeting: Commissioner Siegel

Second by: Commissioner Moon

Motion carried: 4-0 unanimous

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Recording Secretary, Meagan Farrell.

**NEXT REDMOND ARTS COMMISSION MEETING:
July 12, 2007
Old Redmond School House Community Center**

7:00 p.m.

Redmond Arts Commission

Meeting: June 14, 2007

Audience Present

Please note: Information provided at this public meeting becomes part of the City's permanent record.

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
Donna Porter	6314 Lakewood Blvd NE, Kirkland	425-829-2885
Amo Marr	7935 170 th Place NE #102	425-881-5141
Connie Cooper	10 Harrison St. Ste 306, Seattle	206-283-8710